

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A note ~~[(1,17)]~~ such as a banknote or security note, ~~said note (1,17) the note~~ comprising a substrate having a zone of reduced thickness ~~[(2,7,18)]~~ forming a transparent window in ~~said substrate, characterised in that~~ the substrate, wherein the note further comprises reinforcing means ~~(3,4,8,10,11,14,19,20,22)~~ to increase the resistance of ~~[[said]]~~ zone.

2. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised in that said wherein the~~ substrate is made of a paper substrate.

3. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim ~~1 or 2, characterised in that said 1,~~ wherein the reinforcing means comprise at least a strip of material ~~(3,8,10,14,19)~~ covering at least ~~[[said]] the~~ zone of reduced thickness on at least one side of ~~[[said]] the~~ substrate.

4. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterised in that said wherein the~~ strip of material is a transparent polymer material.

5. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim ~~1 or 2, characterised in that said ,~~ wherein the reinforcing means comprise a patch ~~(4,11,20,22)~~ of material covering at least ~~[[said]] the~~ zone of reduced thickness, ~~[[said]] the~~ patch being formed by a partially demetallized OVD patch placed on at least one side of ~~[[said]] the~~ note.

6. (currently amended) A note as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterised in that said~~ claim 1, wherein the reinforcing means further comprise an additional security feature ~~[[9,15,23]]~~.

7. (currently amended) A note as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterised in that said~~ claim 1, wherein the reinforcing means ~~[[9,15,23]]~~ are placed on both sides of ~~[[said]] the~~ note.

8. (currently amended) A note as claimed in ~~one of claims 3 to 7, characterised in that said claim 3, wherein the~~ reinforcing means comprise a strip ~~[(14)]~~ on one side of ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate and a patch ~~[(11)]~~ on the other side of ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate.

9. (currently amended) A sheet of substrate ~~(16) characterised by~~ further comprising a plurality of notes as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

10. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process for producing notes, such as banknotes or security notes, ~~[[said]]~~ the notes comprising a substrate having a zone of reduced thickness forming a transparent window in ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate, ~~[[said]]~~ the process ~~being characterised by~~ comprising the step of covering at least ~~[[said]]~~ the zone on at least one side of ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate with reinforcing means.

11. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 10, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ it comprises the step of covering ~~[[said]]~~ the zone with reinforcing means on both sides of ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate.

12. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 10, wherein the ~~11, characterised in that said~~ reinforcing means comprise at least a strip or a patch of material.